3/25/70

Dear Harold,

Today I received your mailing of the 21 with the letter to me plus the carbon to Rhoads. Again, I do appreciate the carbon.

The Rhoads letter is good. But have you left yourself open? What you asked for obviously does nor show the slits. A while back, Eckhoff told me that the Archives has 2 pix of the shirt one of which shows the slits. I never asked for these or even a specification of what they were. However,there is still the FBI exhibit pictures which do show it close-up. I probably will order this very soon. Can't they deny your request on the basis that they already have this photo of the slits?

Your long 3/21 to me:

Do I sense a fear in you that Dick will divulge certain things I send him? As I said, it is my understanding that he only told Lifton and Newcomb that I saw Specter but nothing of what transpired. I have not yet sent Dick my Panel mail and when I do, I will only send certain letters.

Of course, you have my promise of help with a trial--and you have it quite anxiously. If this could occur over the summer, the better for myself for I expect to be free. But I will do what I can.

I do know the significance of the letter about which you speak. If you check the letter under which I sent it to you, I state that significance (part of it)--that there was another report.

A confession: You say on p. 2 that you presume the rest of us are leaving these things strictly alone. Well, I quite accidentally stuck my neck out. Let me explain and please understand that this is entirely an accident. I have been interested in finding out if any sources list more than 14 X-rays to account for what was taken but not seen by Panel. Knowing of the memo of transfer from the Panel Report and mistakingly thinking that I had seen it reproduced in the appendix of PM I, I wrote the Archives and asked for a copy. You see, when I was there, I noted at the back of PM I an inventory of the pix and X-rays, but I forgot to copy in my notebook the numbers entailed. I just presumed this was what was mentioned in the Panel Report. It was not until I saw your Ray suit that I found out you had been denied this. There has been <u>no</u> attempt to duplicate your work--indeed, I did not know until after asking that you had been trying to get this. As for the possibility that I might be duplicating what you did in PM, perish the thought. I was just trying to get another listing of the X-rays with no intention to publish or anything like that.

The letter to the Archives in which I asked for it asked for other unprinted documents including a memo referred to by Humes about the removal of shirt and coat material. Assuming that it had already been released, I just referred them to the memo of transfer and asked how much for copies. I hope this will not interfere with what you are doing and it was by all means unintentional--so please excuse.

Yes, I do want to make a guess on where the slides are. First, I think they are wherever the brain is. Second, I suspect that the brain is still at Bethesda.

Suit: All my efforts with the papaers had little effect. The day after I called the Bulletin, a tiny, three paragraph story appeared on the obituary page about the suit, credited to AP. I will send you a photostat of this article. Nothing from the Inquirer and they have the press release.

Lifton: Good idea. He has not yet answered me.

PHONE FIL: Whatever happened to JFK head happened just about at 313--no other place. Before 313, we would see it on the film--after 313, well, as Fil told me off tape, it would be like shooting into a puddle of mud--no dice. I think that two simultaneous shots is more plausible with more shots being fired. In a period of 7 seconds, the odds are increased of two being simultaneous. And also remember, as I thought you would have noted, there are virtually two distinct patterms of wounds to the head. A clean entrance and exit with signs of modest velocity and a gaping hole and massive fragmentation of head--signs of high velocity. As for the exit hole which I dsicovered hidden in the Humes report, Wecht now agrees on my interpretation of it. I don't think Fil saw my line of reasoning on that.

Specter debate: There are some good things on there--others which I did not transcribe like when Tink suggests that the audience vote on the SBT because Specter ran for DA on it. Tink was terrrible. I got all of Specter's outbursts in the transcript. When Tink laughed, S did the same thing to him as he persistantly did to me. And the goatskin--perhaps he would like some salt on it.

Chest wound memo: Should I be exasperated that you did not "blow your mind" on this? Or perhaps I did not adequately convey what I meant to say?

Owing to the fact that you do not challange what I say here, let me repeat what I think the record amply proves on the chest incisions--Humes perjured himself on them, Specter subborned it and tried on several occassions to find out what really happened, once delberately leading Perry to confirm Humes' perjury. Yet, Specter succeeded only in proving the perjury as well as his awareness of it. This is one the the most clear-cut cases I have seen. And it is 100% on the record.

As for its significance, you ask the purpose of this deception. First of all, the only thing I can say with absolute certainty is that it did occur. Why it occured is another story..I can only speculate. It is not to say that there was a skin wound to the chest, or anything visible to Parkland docs. How about internal damage, lung damage, etc? Even so, these are wounds to the body, part of the efforts to revive JFK, and they are an important part of the protocol, or the findings.

At any rate, we can, as Liebeler says, "add this one to the pile." Look at what has transpired with the neck and thorax wounds. The back wound was raised from its low position, Humes testifies on the lung bruises differantly than what he had previously told Specter, Humes says no fragments in neck--there were, Humes says ant. wound not there--it was, and now, Humes says chest operation stopped--it was completed. I ask, and blush as I do so, whether we can believe anything this man says.

Must stop. Am very busy.

Still,

Howard